[34]

A True and Brief

RELATION

OF THE

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Common-Council

OF THE

CITY of *LONDON*,

The 13*th* of *MAY*, 1681.

A PETITION was presented to the said Court by divers Citizens of the said City, as followeth.

To the Right Honourable Sir Patience Ward, *Knight, Lord Mayor of the City of* London, *and the Right Worshipful the Aldermen and Commons in Common-Council Assembled.*

The Humble Petition of Us whose Names are hereunto Subscribed, Citizens of the said City,

Sheweth,

THAT *notwithstanding the late Parliament Summoned to meet at* Oxford, *was Dissolved before any thing was done; yet, your Petitioners, being satisfied, That those Worthy persons, Chosen to represent this Honourable City, did not only give their Attendance there, but faithfully discharged their duties according to the Representation and desire made to them by the Common-Hall at their Choice, do humbly conceive, That they deserve the Thanks and Acknowledgments of the City.*

That on the 28*th of* April, *on occasion of another Petition, some of the Petitioners (and other Citizens) did humbly Petition the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen for the Calling of a Common-Council, &c. Which Petition not being Transcribed till the Court was sitting, there were but few persons who did then Sign the same, for want of time (and even now are straitned in that respect); but your Petitioners below, and many thousands would have subscribed it, had the same been sent abroad, and offered as the other was.*

That tho' on the Answer given by the Court of Aldermen, your Petitioners went away satisfied, and hoped the others had done the like; yet afterwards they found in Print a Declaration, put in the Name of the Subscribers to the said other Petition (without the consent or knowledge of most of them (as your Petitioners believe) tending to a Defamation of all that differed from their way of proceeding, thereby to beget feuds and divisions in the City, which might endanger the Peace, and bring a scandal on the good Government thereof.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray, that this Honourable Court would be pleased in some publick way to own the faithful Endeavours and Service of their late Representatives in Parliament; And also to take into their serious Consideration the matter of the said Petition, a Copy whereof is hereunto annexed (which Petition was formerly printed) and thereupon to resolve on what they shall find most for the Honour of his Majesty, the Safety of his Royal Person, the Security of the Protestant Religion to Posterity, and the Peace and Prosperity of this City.

And your Petitioners (as in duty bound) shall ever pray, &c.

The ſaid Petition being read, after ſome debate relating to the Petitioners that preſented it, the Court took the ſame into conſideration; and on the debate touching the firſt part, the Court being well ſatisfied, that the Members who ſerved for this City in the three laſt Parliaments, had faithfully diſcharged their duties,

Ordered,

That the thanks of this Court in the name of themſelves and all the Citizens of this City, be given to the ſaid Members (viz. *Sir* Robert Clayton, *Sir* Thomas Player, *Alderman* Thomas Pilkington, *and* William Love, *Eſq;*) *for their faithful and unwearied ſervice in the ſaid Parliaments, and particularly in the Parliament at* Oxford.

After which, it being late, about Three of the Clock, a debate aroſe, whether the Court would then at that time proceed to the conſideration of the other part of the Petition, now or not; and on the queſtion it was reſolved in the Affirmative, there being 84 Commons and 7 Aldermen, which make 91. together, for a preſent proceeding therein, and but 66. Commons and 11. Aldermen, which is together but 77. for deferring the ſame.

The Court then proceeding on the conſideration of the ſaid matters, it was on the debate, with a general conſent, reſolved, and the Court did nominate and appoint Sir *Robert Clayton*, Knight, and Alderman, Mr. Recorder, and *Thomas Pilkington*, Alderman, Sir *Thomas Player* Knight, Mr. *Dubois*, Mr. *William Aſhurſt*, and *Thomas Weſterne*, Eſq; Commoners, to withdraw, and immediately to prepare a Petition to His Majeſty upon the debates then had, and the ſubject-matter of the ſaid Petition.

The ſaid Gentlemen accordingly withdrew, and after ſome time returned again to the Court, and there preſented the draught of a Petition to His Majeſty, which Petition is already Printed.

On the reading of the ſaid Petition, it was ſo well approved, that on the queſtion there appeared not above 4. or 6. hands againſt the preſenting the ſame to his Majeſty, which the Court ordered ſhould be done to morrow, or as ſoon as conveniently might be; and the Court nominated and appointed Sir *Robert Clayton*, Mr. Recorder, Sir *Henry Tulſe*, and Mr. Sheriff *Corniſh*, Mr. *Swynock*, *Tho. Weſterne*, Eſq; Mr. *Michael Godfrey*, and Mr. Deputy *Flawell*, to preſent the ſame to His Majeſty accordingly.

Then the Court reſolved and ordered,

That the thanks of the Court be given to thoſe perſons who ſigned and delivered the Petition, now preſented to, and read in this Court, for their Care and good intentions therein expreſt.

The ſaid perſons were then called in, and Mr. Recorder in a very elegant and excellent Speech gave them thanks accordingly.

On *Saturday* the 14*th* of *May*, Sir *Robert Clayton*, and others of the perſons appointed, did repair to *Windſor*, to have preſented the ſaid Petition; but were acquainted, that on *Thurſday* the 19*th* of *May*, His Majeſty would be at *Hampton-Court*, where they might attend him; which accordingly they did, and preſented the ſaid Petition to His Majeſty, in purſuance of the Order of Common-Council.

On *Saturday* the 21*ſt* of *May*, at the Seſſions of Peace and Gaol-delivery held at the *Old-Bayly* for the City of *London*: The Foreman of the Grand-Jury, in the name of 15 of the ſaid Jury (which were 17 in all) did in open Court return their Thanks to the Right Honourable Sir *Patience Ward*, Knight, Lord Mayor of the City of *London*, for his taking care to have the Petition of the City of *London* to his moſt Gracious Majeſty for the Sitting of a Parliament, preſented according to the Order of Common-Council: And one of the other two Jury-men that diſſented, declared himſelf in Court, that he did thank his Lordſhip for that in particular; but that his Lordſhip had done many other Services, and he intended to have joyned in a general Thanks to his Lordſhip.

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